



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was generally steady in all areas. Retail demand was light to moderate, best where ads and first of the month business were active. Food service was fair to good, best into fast food channels and restaurants. In parts of the Midwest, movement was irregular in areas affected by snow storms. Supplies of all sizes were usually adequate or readily available for trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was light to fair. Breast items were in good balance and clearing well, particularly tenders which were well cleared. Dark meat was balanced and moving satisfactorily, but wings were adequate to ample, longest for larger sizes. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 73.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 72.50 cents last year on March 03, 2004.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	172.50
BREASTS - B/S	143.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	82.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	94.00
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	117.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN REGION Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand into all channels was fair to moderate with supplies of all sizes usually sufficient to handle trade requirements. In the parts structure, movement was fair to improved. Breast items were better balanced to at times close with increased interest. Wings were mixed and often unsettled, but available. Dark meat was in good balance to barely adequate for drums, and leg quarters interest was aided by export business. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST REGION Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally fair to moderate. Offerings of all sizes were adequate for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was light. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items and tenderloins were in good balance to closely cleared. Dark meat cuts were clearing satisfactorily. Wings were fully adequate to ample.

MIDWEST REGION Whole broiler/fryer offerings were light to moderate with a steady market tone. Demand was much the same as prior trade period; irregular and hampered by winter storms in the Michigan and Ohio areas. Scattered retail features, fast food promotions and restaurant cut-up portions continued to provide moderate to good demand. Floor stocks were in a full range; weights desirable. Trade on parts was light, cautious and price sensitive. Offerings were adequate with large wings ample and discounted to help entice buyer interest; remaining parts offerings were moderate, instances heavy on boneless/skinless breasts with livers, gizzards and tenderloins in tightest position. The market tone was fully steady to firm on tenderloins, unsettled on dark product, steady on breast cuts and regular wings, and weak on large wings.

WESTERN REGION The market tone was steady overall. Offerings easily adequate to cover trade needs. Buying activity was fair. Retailer demand was moderate with best interest noted where features in progress. Floor stocks in good balance with current demand. Dark meat items were fully steady and white meat items about steady.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 02/26/05		PERCENT CHANGE
	2005	2004	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	213,200	210,864	+01
CHICKS PLACED	175,684	168,319	+04

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 26, 2005. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED UP 4 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 176 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 26, 2005. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through February 26, 2005 were 1.39 billion, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 09-Apr-05 is estimated at 161.8 million head. This compares to 161.6 million head the previous week and to 157.6 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 152.3 million head and the composite weighted average price was 76.96 cents per pound.

MARCH 01, 2005

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 02, 2005

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	772	128.00-204.00	132-136	138.11
TENDERLOINS	243	140.00-175.00	140-145	145.04
BREAST - LINE RUN	110	82.00-92.00	83-87	85.55
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	83	37.00-51.00	40-41	41.00
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	512	28.00-32.00	29	29.11
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,060	29.00-36.00	31	31.13
WINGS (WHOLE)	303	80.00-122.00	108-112	105.99
WINGS (CUT)	453	95.00-137.00	127-131	124.73
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	835	132.00-215.00	134-140	144.97
TENDERLOINS	236	140.00-170.00	142-149	146.34
BREAST - LINE RUN	115	82.00-95.00	87-92	90.00
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	74	38.00-51.00	40-41	41.50
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	527	28.00-32.00	29	29.15
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	925	29.00-33.00	31	31.01
WINGS (WHOLE)	328	80.00-120.00	109-115	108.49
WINGS (CUT)	400	113.00-135.00	126-129	126.55
DRUMSTICKS	74	35.00-56.00	-	38.43
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	95	90.00-99.00	-	94.47

 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE TODAY'S AVERAGE
 49.00 - 55.00 51.68

RANGE TODAY'S AVERAGE 5-DAY AVERAGE
 49.00-55.00 52.35 51.36

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was noted as mostly fair during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items and tenderloins were in good balance and clearing satisfactorily. Drums and thighs were in good balance. Wings were fully adequate to ample and slow in clearing. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light. The market tone was at least steady to fully steady on dark meat cuts; at least steady on the breast items. Wings were weak.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. MARCH 01, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	140-145	144.76	565,500
TENDERLOINS	145-150	146.37	183,710
BREAST - WITH RIBS	82-83	89.95	102,280
BREAST - LINE RUN	82	81.05	91,000
LEGS	44-45	41.74	276,200
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32	31.54	443,630
DRUMSTICKS	30-31	37.16	191,300
THIGHS	37-38	46.13	64,900
B/S THIGHS	96-97	92.30	76,180
WINGS (WHOLE)	112-113	120.56	93,600
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.16	7,120
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	32.29	14,080
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	56.03	39,680

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

MARCH 02, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	140-145	138.03	733,546
TENDERLOINS	145-150	154.63	102,880
BREAST - WITH RIBS	82-83	90.41	112,960
BREAST - LINE RUN	82	83.42	108,640
LEGS	44-45	44.04	284,720
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32	32.11	282,463
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	39.28	171,640
THIGHS	37-38	45.11	81,385
B/S THIGHS	96-97	94.08	52,720
WINGS (WHOLE)	110-111	123.27	102,880
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.32	30,680
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	29.17	19,040
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.80	19,440

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED (1,000)	ACTUAL (1,000)	AVG WTS	ACTUAL WTS	AVG WTS
	03/02	03/01	02/28	02/25	02/23
Alabama	3,989	3,981	3,947	4,076	5.23
Arkansas	5,249	4,520	5,474	5,297	5.21
Delmarva	2,269	2,269	2,250	2,171	5.59
KY-LA-TN	2,185	2,158	1,953	1,788	5.29
Mississippi	3,017	3,023	3,083	3,173	5.50
North Car	2,557	2,559	2,357	3,046	6.59
Texas	2,359	2,338	2,410	2,345	5.41
Total	21,625	20,848	21,474	21,896	5.48
Mon-Wed	64,348(A)				63,271(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 02-Mar-05 is estimated to be 32,353,000 head up 3.02 percent from a week ago and up 5.71 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,405,000, last year 30,606,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-73
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 103-105
	DRY PACK 103-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 108-111
	DRY PACK 111
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 89-93
	DRY PACK 89-95
DUCKS	180-192

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 05-Mar-05

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/05/05 (1)	02/26/05
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	163,044 (2)	159,306
Light hens	1,488	1,519
Heavy hens	1,449	1,364
Total	165,981	162,189

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 05-Mar-05 is 163.0 million head compared to 155.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 163.4 million head or 0.4 million more than estimated available. For the week of 12-Mar-05 the estimated available is 161.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 02/28/05	88,108	41,709
AM 02/01/05	78,113	44,671
CHG	9,995	-2,962
PCT CHG	13	-7

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	02/28/05	02/21/05	03/01/04	02/28/05	02/21/05	03/01/04
PACIFIC						
COAST	2,665	2,321	5,982	6,526	6,821	4,314
LOS ANGELES	62	65	366	3,546	3,651	2,161

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 2005

	RANGE
HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	69-76
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	80-84

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 03/01/05

****NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO SNOW STORM****

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	-	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	-	-	-	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS 0							

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending February 25, 2005

Cents per pound for the week ending, February 28, 2000						
	Whole		Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/	
	Chickens	Breasts	W/ Thighs	& Wings	Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	75.34	131.03	90.08	24.57	8.19	54.05
High	77.39	139.22	94.18	28.66	12.28	54.05
Mostly	76.16	135.12	90.08	24.57	10.24	54.05

SAN JUAN

Low	75.34	131.03	90.08	20.47	12.28	54.87
High	76.98	143.31	98.27	28.66	14.33	54.87
Mostly	75.75	135.12	94.18	22.52	14.33	54.87

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	74.93	131.03	94.18	20.47	12.28	54.87
High	77.39	135.12	102.36	26.61	14.33	54.87
Mostly	75.75	135.12	94.18	22.52	14.33	54.87

BECERRA

Low	75.34	135.12	90.08	20.47	12.28	53.23
High	76.57	143.31	94.18	28.66	14.33	53.23
Mostly	76.16	139.22	94.18	24.57	14.33	53.23

DELMARVA

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to moderate and continued to keep seller offerings cleared satisfactorily. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 69 to 83 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were generally noted as in good balance to closely cleared except wings which were readily available at some points.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	67-84
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	72.15
NO. OF BOXES	6,730

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